

OUR OMNIBUS.

PIPER PAN.

One of the most pleasant improvements of the present day is the excellent music provided at theatres not devoted to opera or musical plays. There is little doubt that the public have largely to thank the managers of the Lyceum, Haymarket, and St. James's Theatres for the abolition of the execrable and scraping theatrical orchestras of the past. Sir Henry Irving intends again making music a great feature at the Lyceum, when "Romeo and Juliet" is revived. He has engaged a band of 35 performers, who will be conducted by the distinguished conductor and composer, Herr Carl Ambruster. The music for the revival has been expressly composed by Mr. Edward German.

There does not seem to have been any great enthusiasm displayed at any of the performances given at the Gloucester Festival, and the old standard works apparently pleased more than the novelties, which were received rather coldly by the local public. One of the works which excited most interest was the "King Saul" of Dr. Hubert Parry, who is a member of a well-known family in Gloucester. Dr. Parry himself conducted the performance of his work, which was originally produced at the Birmingham Festival last year.

All the novelties produced at Gloucester were by local composers, with the exception of Mr. Frederick Cewen's "The Transfiguration." The subject selected by the Jewish musician has excited a good deal of remark; but he has proved himself quite equal to the task. His music is full of religious fervour and notable for the breadth and vigour of the many of the numbers in the cantata, which is likely to be frequently performed, as it plays under an hour.

The Queen's Hall Choir has been completely reorganised, and the ensuing season, commencing Nov. 13, will be conducted by Mr. Alberto Randegger. The work selected for performance are "Walpurgis Night," "Choral Fantasia," "Athalie," "Samson," "Haydn's 'Spring,'" "The Lobseang," "Saint Basil's Psalm XIX," "Acis and Galatea," "Rossini's 'Stabat Mater,'" and the "Messiah" on Christmas Day afternoon, and "The Redemption" on Good Friday afternoon.

Mr. Randegger will also conduct a series of Sunday afternoon orchestral concerts, which will extend over six months, and will be given instead of the organ recitals which took place last season. The orchestra will number 70 performers, and at each concert symphonies, concertos, and other high-class works will be performed. Only two guineas for reserved subscriptions and one guinea for unreserved is the sum asked for the whole series of 26 concerts.

The 40th annual series of Saturday concerts at the Crystal Palace will begin on Oct. 12, and continue until April 5. The solo instrumentalists include Miss Clotilde Kleeberg, Miss Elise Barnes, and Madame Roger Mielco; Messrs. Dawson, Popper, Wesseler, and Silioti; and after Christmas Herr Willy Burmeister and Dr. Joachim will appear. The vocalists will be Messdames Brony, Rina Alpert, De Bouffiers, Salter, Scott, Fillingner, Janson, and Dew; Messrs. Lloyd, Black, and Bentley; and the veteran Mr. August Manns will again conduct the fine orchestra.

A special programme has been arranged for Oct. 19, the 40th anniversary of the first Crystal Palace concert. Mr. Manns has decided to devote the whole of the afternoon's entertainment to the works of British composers, who were first heard at the Palace. Among them are Sir Arthur Sullivan, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Mr. Frederick Cewen, Dr. Hubert Parry, and Mr. Hamish McCuan.

M. Massenet, the popular French composer, is writing a new opera. The libretto is by M. Henri Cain, who wrote "La Navarraise," in which Madame Calvé made such a success. The title of the new work is "Cendrillon," and it will be produced this winter in Paris.

The coming Leeds Festival will be the sixth at which Sir Arthur Sullivan has been the conductor. Mr. Frye Parker will this year fill the post of first leader, which for many years was occupied by the late Mr. Carrodus.

It appears that after all there will be a Gilbert and Sullivan revival at the Savoy Theatre. Owing to the reported reproduction of "The Mikado," there have been a great many demands for seats at the box-office. Naturally, therefore, Mr. Carte thinks it is worth while to produce the opera, and thus fill up the time until the new work which Sir Arthur Sullivan and Mr. Gilbert are engaged in ready.

"La reine est morte," "Vive la reine," is the motto for the moment of Mr. Sims Reeves. Not many clowns have elapsed since every one was sympathising with the veteran tenor at the loss of a wife of nearly 50 years wedded bliss. Now he has again gone to the altar, and I am informed the lady is young and pretty.

The two clever and charming sisters, Marianna and Clara Eisler, last week had the honour of performing on the violin and harp before the Queen and the Royal Family at Balmoral. The young artists also took part with Princess Beatrice in a trio for piano, harp, and violin.

Madame Amy Sherwin's holiday meditations at Westgate were rudely interrupted by the news that burglars had broken into her house and done considerable damage. The prima donna and her husband probably never left the house again without a caretaker.

So, after all, Miss Jeanne Dunst does not appear in the Drury Lane pantomime, but goes to America with Sir Augustus Harris's "Hansel and Gretel" company. The accomplished young artist cannot fail to make a great success as Gretel, the part she has almost made her own.

The composer of "Le Réve" and "L'At-tarde du Moulin" has completed the first and commenced the second act of a new opera, the libretto of which is being written by M. Emile Zola. M. Bruneau hopes to have his work ready for production next season.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

One of the most justly dreaded of insects is the locust. These creatures fly about in immense swarms, and when they pitch upon a locality where there is food for them, they soon destroy the growing crops and devour the leaves of the trees, the hedges, and the fields, and in fact strip the place of every vestige of green stuff. No wonder, then, that the country people, when they learn of their approach, are filled with awe. They appear in the distance like a huge cloud, which swiftly comes on, shutting out the light of the sun as it approaches. Part of the cloud will perhaps pass over, and another part perhaps will descend to the ground. Soon everything that is green will vanish, and the locusts will pass on to another spot, leaving a terrible scene of desolation behind, and often causing famine amongst the inhabitants.

In the Zoological Society's "proceedings" for last year, Mr. C. B. Mitford describes the

approach of a swarm of locusts to Freetown, Sierra Leone, as follows:—Huge black clouds appeared above the hills, as if a severe storm were brewing, and those I at first saw, the advance guard, in the brilliant sunshine, gradually gave one an idea that the whole of the sides of the hills were on fire. At 2.45 p.m. these supposed clouds reached Freetown, and proved to be a countless mass of locusts, which passed without intermission till 5.10 p.m., and as they were only 90 or 100 feet above the ground, a sound like a rushing stream at a distance could be heard. During their course the sky was obscured. Myriads settled on the houses, trees, &c., but made no apparent difference in the size of the swarms passing over. The whole town was covered with their swarming. Last night, when I went out about 10 p.m. I found plenty of locusts in the garden. This morning, when I got up about 6 a.m., only two or three were to be seen. At 9.45 a.m. the stream began again, and continued up to 1 p.m.

As well as boring into, and spoiling the look of old furniture by their holes, the little insects known as boring beetles, sometimes attack books, and do so much injury to them that they become almost worthless. This is very noticeable in books which come to us from India. From Louisiana we hear that at a library in one of the towns of that State a few of these insects were noticed some years ago, but were thought of as a passing annoyance, and not destroyed. Since that time, however, in spite of endeavours by various means to check their depredations, they have gone on increasing in numbers, and the books have suffered so much from their attacks, that it is thought the time can not be far distant when many of the volumes will have to be burnt to save the others.

I am obliged to a correspondent of the north of London for the following instance of the "homing" instinct in the dog:—"I was staying with some friends at Croydon a month ago who were anxious to get rid of a little whippet they had, so on my leaving at night it was put in the train with me, and duly arrived at London Bridge, but in Moorgate street it got loose and ran off, and nothing more was seen of it until yesterday (after exactly one month's absence), when it walked up to the front door at Croydon and barked to be let in as usual. It still had its collar on, but there was no name or address on it. One can understand dogs in the country finding their way for long distances, but I think for a dog to do so through the most crowded part of London worth mentioning."

Most of my readers, no doubt, are familiar with the historical account of the saving of the capital of Rome by a flock of geese. There exists, according to Mr. Last, the expert in this (who gives an account of his travels in this month's "Geographical Magazine"), a parallel story. It is believed that the village of Besakua was saved by a covey of sand grouse. Mr. Last says: "Whilst breakfast was being prepared I went out and shot some sand grouse, and on returning found it was 'fadi' for the natives to either shoot or bring them into the village; they did not object to my shooting the birds, but refused to let me bring them into the village. These birds, so the natives said, were made 'fadi' because they had saved the village from destruction some time ago. A covey of them being disturbed by an advancing enemy, rose up with their usual loud cackling cry, which they make whilst flying; the natives, alarmed by this, discovered their enemies, and thus the birds saved them from a surprise and their village probably from destruction."

Some time ago in this column I called attention to the fact that Mr. Theodore Bent, in his travels in Southern Arabia, had observed that the camels there in certain districts were fed on fish, and for curing fish for this purpose alone large tracts of land were set aside. We now learn from the "Scottish Geographical Magazine" that Mr. Johnston-Lavis during his travels in Iceland observed that at most of the coast farms there, the horses and cattle were fed in an almost similar manner. Instead, however, of giving whole fishes to the animals, as in Arabia, cods' heads were only used, which, first of all, were pounded. This certainly seems strange fare for cattle, but no doubt after a time they soon acquire a liking for it, which, to say the least, is fortunate, for, when vegetable food becomes scarce, in the one country on account of the dry winter, and in the other on account of the dry heat and sandy soil, fish are almost always to be had, or if not, they can be caught at the proper seasons, cured and stewed away.

The additions to the Zoological Society's Menagerie during the week ending Sept. 17 include a bonnet monkey, a Macaque monkey, a Weipiti or (brown) lemur, a brown capuchin, a Smith's dwarf lemur, a yellow-fronted amaran, three common boas, two triangular-spotted pigeons, two crested pigeons, two half-collared doves, two vancouver doves, and a spotted pigeon, bred in the Gardens.

THE ACTOR.

The latest London actor-manager to receive a royal command is Mr. George Alexander, whose good fortune will give pleasure to all his friends. That he should have been asked to take his company to Balmoral must have been doubly pleasing to him, for, as it happens, he is a Scotchman, at any rate by birth. Whosoever selected "Liberty Hall" as the play to be performed showed excellent taste, for the piece is not only a thoroughly wholesome one, but one of the best efforts of one of our leading dramatists—two good reasons for submitting it to her Majesty.

I have seen it stated that in placing Rosaline-Romeo's first love—upon the stage in his production of Shakespeare's play, Mr. Forbes Robertson is submitting a novelty. It may be a novelty to London players, but it is not so to those who have done some theatre-going at provincial centres. It is a matter of fact that when Mr. Kyrie Bellew went on tour some years ago with "Romeo and Juliet" he introduced into the ball scene a lady who was supposed to represent Rosaline. The idea is altogether excellent, whoever may have been the first to think of it.

In certain theatrical circles much interest is being taken in the marriage (fixed for Monday next) of Miss Adelaide and Mr. George Grossmith, jun. Miss Astor, as most regular players know, is one of the sisters of Miss Latty Lind, and, like her, a dancer. Miss Astor, in truth, has often acted as Miss Lind's locum tenens. It is said she is her sister's pupil, and assuredly she could not have had a better teacher. I am not, myself, a great admirer of Miss Astor's dancing, but I know that I am in the minority, and that many popular theatre-lovers Miss Astor is very popular indeed.

Miss Astor has shown, on occasion, as in "Go-Bang," some aptitude as an actress. Mr. Grossmith has in a very short time taken a definite and firm position on our stage as the typical representative of the "beautiful houndful Bertie" of society—a class of masher with which few are acquainted in real life, but which is exceedingly amusing on the boards. It may be argued that Mr. Grossmith, in his assumptions, is always the same; but that may be because he always has the same sort of part, and that he can

be very diverting no one, assuredly, will deny.

The prices at the new Duke of York's—The Trafalgar—Theatre are now very carefully graduated. They range from half-a-guinea to seven shillings and sixpence, and one shilling. Here the public has a range of choice which it ought to find eminently convenient. From six shillings downwards there are no gaps in the two-shilling pit is likely to be popular, especially as the Duke of York's pit is a big one to fill. All that is now wanted is a good play, and let us hope that will be forthcoming in the person of "Her Advocate."

"Her Advocate" will do the good service, to begin with, of bringing forward Miss Gertrude Kingston as a "leading lady." That position she held, in effect, in the "Passport," but the part was not so serious as the heroine, and a sympathetic one. That fact, I dare say, will be agreeable to her, for at one time it seemed as if she were going to be doomed to play adventures all her life—which would have been very hard lines. In general, however, it is difficult for an artist to get out of any groove in which she has been successful.

Very inadequate accounts have been published of the late Alfred Thompson so far as his stage career is concerned. Between 1868 and 1878 he was an active contributor to dramatic literature. He produced one of the earliest adaptations of "Gringoire"—"The King's Pleasure." He wrote a comedy, "The Colubine," several burlesques, such as "Aladdin II.," "Cinderella the Younger," "How I Found Crusoe," "Calypso," and (with Robert Reeve) "The Yellow Dwarf;" likewise the libretto of "Belladonna," and two or three farces. None of his works, however, have survived him.

"The Globe" has mentioned some of the female Romances. Let me add one or two to the list. There was Mrs. Conway, for instance, who appeared in the part of Sadie's Wells in 1862. There was Madame St. Claire (her real name), Mrs. Marshall, who played Romeo to the Juliet of her daughter at the Park Theatre in 1877. Another actress who played Romeo to her daughter's Juliet was Mrs. Foote, a provincial worthy. Among living players who have figured as Romeo is Miss Margaret Leighton, who represented the character at Manchester some 20 years ago.

OLD IZAAK.

The Thames is low and bright. For the time being angling prospects are anything but favourable, and a good disposal of rain is needed to put the river in order. The tidal water continues to yield sport, and at Teddington, Mrs. Smith, Dr. Parkhurst, and Mr. Aylard (piloted by W. McBride) have each had good takes. Mrs. Smith landing a nice jack of 5 lb., and Dr. Parkhurst one of 4 lb. At Twickenham the boats have been well employed, and an angler fishing from the bank has secured a nice roach and dace, and a flounder. Mr. Brown, at Richmond, early in the week, took 26 barbel, weighing 45 lb. in all.

The punts of Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, at Sunbury, have brought in seven jack and a few perch, the largest of the latter scaling 14 lb. E. Clark, in the same locality, reports taking a quantity of roach and dace, and at Kingston, Johnson, Knight, and Bolton have each found their patrons' sport. The customers of John Keene, at Datchet, have again done well. Messrs. Price, O'Dowd, Harris, Rockfield, and Wheelton having been well among the barbel, roach, and chub. Among the take of Mr. J. P. Wheelton was a beautiful bream scaling nearly 7 lb.

The Lea is not altogether in the best condition, but some good roach are announced to have been taken at Broxbourne, St. Margaret's, and other up-river stations. Mr. Sowerbutts has secured a 2 lb. roach at St. Margaret's, which is certainly the best Lea roach taken of late.

From Pulborough and Amberley I hear that practically nothing has been done, and rain is greatly needed there as elsewhere. Several matches came off in the district last week, but in most cases the prizes were not taken, and the competitors will have to "fight their battles o'er again."

The Welsh Harp fishery holds its own, and has been well patronised. No less than 294 lb. of bream was taken by the anglers there during the week, giving an average of 17 lb. per rod, besides a quantity of perch, two jack of 5 lb. and 4 lb. respectively, and some roach. Mr. Holton proved the most successful angler, taking 40 lb. of bream, followed closely by Messrs. Schell and Arnold, who each took a somewhat smaller quantity.

The Walworth Waltonians, meeting at St. Paul's Tavern, Westmoreland-road, Walworth, have a special meeting next Monday, when Mr. J. Jeffery, of the Epsom Angling Society, reads his paper on "The Thames, from the River to the Sea," and the results to be illustrated with lantern views, and accompanied by appropriate songs. All anglers will be welcomed, and I am sure there is a treat in store for those who attend. The society has also a "grand outing" on Wednesday, when the Wiltonian knowledge of Thames fishing is to be turned to practical account, and an interesting competition will doubtless result.

The weekly meeting of the Piscatorial Society at the Holborn Restaurant, over which Mr. E. Foreman so genialy presided on Monday last, proved full of interest, especially the discussion on the timidity of fishes, and the causes of their disappearance to a great extent from waters where artifice practice prevail. Apart from the discussion, there was an excellent show of fish. Mr. F. G. Bridgeman displaying a beautiful tray of tench from Sussex (nine fish, scaling 15 lb. 7 oz. together); Mr. E. J. Walker, a fine sample of roach and dace (largest roach 14 lb.), and Mr. Henry Harden some capital roach and grayling. Several members are off salmon fishing in Scotland, and a fish or two is expected to grace the trays, if possible, on Monday evening.

The British Sea Anglers' Society held their first social gathering of the season at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 8 p.m., when Mr. C. H. Cook ("John Bickerdike") will lecture on "Simplicity in Sea-fishing tackle." Sea-fishing has no able exponent than "John Bickerdike," and the members and friends of the society are sure to muster strongly on this important occasion, if only to hear his address. The society is doing good work for sea anglers, and the number of its adherents, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Ball, its hon. secretary, is steadily increasing. Mr. Anglers will be sorry to hear that Mr. M. G. de Courcy, the able hon. librarian of the Piscatorial Society, is laid up. It is hoped his illness is not of a serious character, and that before very long the members may again have the pleasure of seeing him in his accustomed place in thoroughly restored health.

The Great Northern Brothers had a good show of fish at their club-room, the "Robin Hood," Southampton-street, Pentonville, last week. "Johnny Osborne" weighed in 16 lb. 4 oz. of roach; J. Cartwright, 11 lb. 15 oz.; and Messrs. C. Watling, J. Hewitt, and several other members all contributed to the display. If fish are to be caught at all, some

are sure to find their way to the trays of the Great Northern Brothers.

Mr. Eldridge informs me that his special train to Pulborough and Amberley will run during the month of October, leaving London Bridge at 8.15 a.m., calling at South Bermondsey, Peckham Rye, and East Dulwich. There will be no alteration in time of the return journey, so that anglers having fish, will be able to weigh in at their clubs as hitherto.

The committee of the Wade testimonial fund are anxious to close the subscription list at an early date, and will be glad if clubs and friends who have not yet sent in their contributions, will do so without delay. The names already on the list testify to the esteem in which Mr. Wade is held by all classes of anglers, and will doubtless be further shown when the presentation is made. Mr. W. H. Elmore, president of the West London Anglers, is secretary, and Mr. J. Parkin, of the Great Northern Brothers, treasurer of the fund, to either of whom subscriptions may be sent.

GENERAL CHATTER.

Now that a coroner's jury has expressed opinion that the State ought to prohibit the sale of dangerous paraffin lamps, perhaps there may be some chance of reform in this vital matter. Every year, hundreds of lives are sacrificed in England through the explosion of badly-constructed lamps, and the substitution of glass chimneys for the substitution of glass chimneys is a step in the right direction. The lamp is upset, and by the breaking of the reservoir the paraffin is set loose in a second. Safety lamps cost very little more than non-safety, and the question being one of life or death an extra shilling should not be grudged by the most penurious.

The goody-good would, I suppose, strenuously object to the establishment, under Home Office control, of institutions for the reception of illegitimate children on payment. But what an unmeasured boon it would be, both to the poor little things themselves and to their miserable parents, who are hoveled at baby-farming, and who, in their despair, are driven to the vilest of vices, the sale of their children for the vilest of purposes. The baby farmer will always be with us so long as poor deceived girls have no other means of disconnecting themselves from the proofs of their sin. They are, as a rule, quite willing to pay maintenance charges, but what chance has a girl of getting into domestic life so long as she is tied to a surreptitious infant?

The ancient mariner in Manzoni seems to possess a singularly elastic conscience. At Douglas last week a number of these hardy tars were fined for carrying passengers largely in excess of the regulations allowed. One carried 67 lb. 12 oz. on board; in another, a similar craft transported 150 lbs. instead of 80, as per regulation; in yet another, a row-boat laden down to the water's edge was found to contain twice the number for which she was licensed. I certainly think that such a case is an innumerable with "hard" could be the inevitable punishment. Fines are of no good whatever, the extra profits being so enormous as to allow plenty of margin against the chance of detection.

The Stock Exchange teems with stories about Mr. Barney, the South African millionaire. It is said that one day last week he made two millions sterling in a single haul, and appeared none the worse for the struggle. These tales should be received with all possible reserve. No doubt, the enterprising Barney has a gift for converting paper into gold; in his earlier life he was, believe me, a travelling conjuror and a rook, and perhaps he learnt the trick at that time. At all events, he is reputed to be the owner of 20 millions sterling, a nice little pile to have been accumulated in the course of a few years. But will he hold on to it? I never hear of one of these mushroom millionaires without, in my mind, I am reminded of the saying, "It is easy enough, man, to make much money, but to keep it when made is as difficult as to get into Heaven."

Taking things easily is eminently conducive to longevity in man and beast alike. Thus, while the high-mettled racehorse becomes decrepit at an early age, the philosophic "mole" remains fit for work to quite advanced years. At a late donkey show in Lancashire, one prize-winner numbered 20 years, while two other venerable animals showed the slightest sign of approaching decrepitude; their teeth were so perfect that one became so excited by admiring visitors disappeared as if by magic. Donkey wisdom has something in it, after all; perhaps, indeed, the contemplative "mole," seeing how man shortens his days by fuss and worry, regards humanity as supremely foolish—"quite the donkey" in short.

Honduras is an amusing country; the inhabitants are so accustomed to be rocked to sleep by earthquakes that they make next to no account of these convulsions. Last week it was telegraphed to Europe that an exceptionally bad one had occurred, swallowing up several houses and a human being. Scarcely, however, was the mournful intelligence digested when another wave denied the truth of the previous bulletin. No earthquake had occurred, it affirmed; the only incident which could have given rise to the rumour was the fall of a house consequent upon decay! It is wonderful how quickly one becomes so accustomed to earthquakes. For a time, they are a little alarming, but after a while, one merely exclaims, "Odd that it, the shake has upset my grog."

A friend who attended the meeting of the British Association at Ipswich tells me that no paper reader there created such general interest as Capt. Hind's account of cannibalism among the Congo tribes. All the ladies present stretched their pretty necks and ears, anxious to catch every syllable of the interesting discourse. Perhaps that will be the next feminine craze; there are some ladies of high fashion who, if report may be believed, already "eat up" their husbands in a metaphorical sense. I have no way how they may finish the meal after the Congo fashion.

Should Mr. W. G. Grace play still better next year than he has done this year, will the "Daily Telegraph" start another shilling subscription for his benefit? It would be pretty well bound to do so, lest censorious people should say that the inferior performers were more honoured than the superior. Mr. Grace must be heartily sick, I should imagine, of the exaggerated adulation he has received, although not, perhaps, displeased by its financial results. When it was foolishly proposed to bestow knighthood on him, he is said to have remarked, "Why should I be a knight?" Then, upon a guashing admirer, taking the sarcasm seriously, delivered opinion that a statue at Lord's would be the very thing.

A correspondent forwards me the following: "That is it, we break it—little Tot of five years, teach me to know. Teacher then told me: what is it?—Little Tot: Please, teacher, its 'breath.'—Teacher (sotto voce): Not so bad either for a little one."

According to a Parliamentary paper just issued, the shares in the Suez Canal which Lord Beaconsfield bought on behalf of the

nation for £4,000,000, are now worth just six times that sum. In other words, his sagacity saw the way to make a profit of £20,000,000, and at the same time secured for himself an immense England's political prestige and power. I have some reason to believe that the great Conservative statesman could have effected the deal on his own account, a certain Hebrew firm being willing to advance him the money on the security of the shares. But he contemptuously spurned the temptation to become rich "beyond the dreams of avarice," and so handed over the State about the finest bargain ever carried through by a British Prime Minister. Yet this is the man whom Radicals of a certain sort never cease to revile!

MADAME.

Fashion forecasts, like those of the weather, convey to one's mind the delightful vague ideas suggested by the well-known words, "variable," "fair generally." We are told that various styles will be worn through the winter; some coats are coming in a more pronounced sack shape, but a smart-looking semi-fitting coat, with loose, straight fronts. Spangles and all manner of glittering trimmings retain their popularity. Skirts are to be moderately wide; wide-topped sleeves are to drop from the shoulder; and high-crowned hats with wide brims will be worn.

We have some very pretty styles of bodice trimming at the present time, enabling one to do so much in the brightening up of a sombre gown. For instance, an effective trimming for a dark bodice is a deep yoke of rather coarse cream-coloured guipure lace outlined with a band of velvet ribbon, either black or to match the colour of the gown, the collar and waistband also being of velvet, ornamented with rosette bows. The velvet ribbon as an outline to the lace has a very good effect.

Another effective bodice trimming is to have braces of either velvet or ribbon, with butterfly bows on the shoulders and at the back of collar and waistband. A dark tulle bodice looked remarkably well trimmed in this way with broad black velvet ribbon. A very stylish bodice trimming is to have narrow velvet braces to simulate lace, each band being finished at the lower end by a small button of cut steel.

There is a perfect rage for buttons just now. They are to be seen of one kind or another on almost every gown, and very pretty ornaments they are, too, if used with discretion; if overdone, the effect is far from pleasing. A fashionable trimming for a cloth gown is to have straps of the cloth terminating in a point, with a button at the end. These straps may be arranged in various ways according to taste. A very elegant tail-made gown of lavender grey cloth had the straps running straight round the foot of the skirt, each strap being fastened with a small jet button. The bodice was trimmed to correspond. The effect was charming.

It always appears to me a sorry sight to see a woman of 50 and upwards in a style of evening dress suited for a girl of 20, and as present fashions go, even to be quite up to date, there is no reason whatever for falling into this mistake. Granted that light and airy fabrics are fashionable for evening wear, it is also true that more substantial materials, such as satin, velvet, or velveteen, are equally fashionable, and are infinitely more becoming to those who have said goodbye to youth.

I am never tired of singing the praises of velveteen. There are many who cannot afford a gown of real velvet, but few who may not possess one of good velveteen. With this they may well rest content, for it is undoubtedly an excellent substitute for the real thing. An ideal evening dress for a middle-aged lady is, to my mind, one of good black velveteen, a perfectly plain, but cut skirt, made to order, and in length cut skirting on the ground at the back. A smooth make of linen will be found an excellent lining. It is light in weight, and not bulky in appearance.

A fashionable style of bodice that would suit any age and almost every build of figure is a tight-fitting shape with short rounded, basque and either a V-shaped or square opening in front. Trim round the neck and down each side of the opening with a gathered frill of imitation black guipure lace. By putting a stitch here and there in the bodice, a knot of bright-coloured ribbon peeping out through the lace has a very happy effect. A good style of sleeve is to have large drooping puffs of the velveteen to below the elbow, finished with a deep frill of lace. A pretty variation in the bodice may be made by placing a black trimming by cream or white lace.

Braiding is being very much employed for the trimming of cloth gowns this autumn. I was greatly struck with a dark blue cloth costume made by a fashionable dressmaker. The colour was rich, the cut of the bodice and skirt, although made in the plainest manner, had the unmistakable hall mark of fashion about it. The upper part of the skirt fitted evenly to the figure; below the waist was moderate. The waist fulness was pleated at the back, and fell in pleated folds, entire hem and half way up the centre of the front breadth.

The bodice was a tight-fitting shape, tailor-made, the basque ending at the waist. A braided pattern to match that on the skirt trimmed each side of the front. The wide-topped sleeves puffed at the elbow, terminating in tight-fitting under-sleeves finished at the wrists with turned-back cuffs or ornamented with the braided pattern. The high collar-band was also covered with braiding. The braid used was very narrow, and of a shade lighter than the colour of the gown.

MR. WHEELER.

The spread of the sport of cycling still goes on almost unchecked, and the uses to which the wheel is put, among the upper classes, point to its taking a very strong hold upon them, merely as a matter of convenience in locomotion, in which I have no way to quarrel with the true strength of the sport, and it is very satisfactory to note that this is so at this particular juncture.

The sport has taken hold of the public in the main because of the feat accomplished upon the racing path. When the public saw men perform those feats they concluded that there was something in the bicycle, and soon an interest in it according to, and now just at the moment when every cycling writer is doing his level best to blacken and decry the racing side, and to make the public think the very worst of it, the sport is being taken up by people whose countenance is bound to increase its popularity, and its hold upon its votaries. The new departure came just in time.

It is amusing to peruse the stereotyped paragraphs which appear in every cycling paper about the same time, belauding the wooden rim, and announcing its success under some professor or other, who is possibly paid to ride it. But on all hands I hear that it is not successful in ordinary use, and that many who had it on their rear wheel machines are going back to the metal rim. Nor is this surprising, for the racing man's mount has relatively a very short life, the crack seldom uses one machine during a whole season, and when he does, it is only used under the most favourable conditions, whereas the roadster is put to a lot of hard work, and is expected

to outwear a racer. At the 2 1/2 hours' race at Wood Green, I am told, a wooden rim went to pieces in consequence of the wet, and I myself saw a wooden rim which had gone to pieces under a light-weight rider, and in my view the wooden rim is of little or no use in this country.

The "corner in tube" is the latest cycling sensation. The Americans are said to have bought up all the available supply for the coming season, and the English maker is to be left. I personally doubt it, but it is a good possibility for a season, and on that day last week a bicycle with the frame made of elm was to be seen down the Ripley-road, whilst I have no doubt that Messrs. Lipley and Biggs will be ready to turn out their wooden bicycle, which was shown at the Stanley some years back, in vast numbers.

Four American firms will show their wares at the Stanley Show at the Agricultural Hall at the end of November, and will see what they can do to uphold the claims made by some of the more Chauvinistic of the American scribbles. I shall watch for their advent with interest.

I hear that the Propulsive Fly-wheel Syndicate are trying to persuade a couple of amateurs to test for them their speed-creating appliance, in the "six hours" race next Saturday, which is for tandem safeties only, and it will be interesting to note if they do any more with the double machine than Mr. W. H. Barsley did on the single in the spring. I do not myself believe that added weight, swinging or rigidly affixed to the driving wheel, will greatly increase power, but if it does, one should look out the long-forgetting "Emulsion Bicycle Wheel," once used—I say once—by Mr. William Cann, on the track at the Agricultural Hall.

The writing down of 24 hours' races continues mostly by the gentlemen whose light went out, when Mr. Shorland ceased to race. The 24 hours' race—just once—on the track, annual fixture, but, of course, the cup cannot keep being won for the third time every year, that's all.

AN ASYLUM TRAGEDY.

A Croydon correspondent says great excitement was caused on Wednesday at Cane Hill Asylum on an affair which has been attended with fatal results. It appears that when a party of male patients were being exercised under the observation of their keeper, one of them suddenly became excited, broke away, and climbing upon the stack pipes or ventilator shafts of the building, he reached the roof. Persuasion and threats having no effect with him, the fire escape of the institution was procured, and some of the warders mounted the ladder and endeavoured to pull the man down. He refused to leave the roof, and when a second attempt was made to remove him, he offered a desperate resistance, yelling one of the warders with a weapon that he had secured, and killing another. He was overpowered after a desperate struggle. The unfortunate warder's name was Finch. Guy, the lunatic murderer, made prompt and deadly use of the blade of a scythe, which he hurled at the attendants, several of whom were seriously injured. He was eventually secured and placed in a padded room. Meanwhile, Finch had been removed to the infirmary, and so severe were the injuries to his head that it was deemed advisable to telegraph for Dr. Bond, of London, who came on, and performed the operation of trepanning. In spite of the best medical aid, however, the unfortunate man expired a few hours later in the presence of his brother and sister and fiancée, to whom he was shortly to have been married. Finch is a Croydon man and had been at the asylum exactly two years on the day of his death. An informal meeting of the Committee of Visitors was held on Thursday afternoon.

CASE OF THE GOLF CLUB WAITRESS.

The case of Alice Maud Ludgate against Lieut.-col. Montgomerie was resumed at Croydon. Complainant, a stylishly-dressed girl of 19, charged defendant with publishing a defamatory libel concerning her in a letter addressed to her mother, in which were given reasons for her summary dismissal as waitress from the service of the Mid-Surrey Golf Club, Old Deer Park, Richmond, defendant being secretary of the club. The allegations, denied by complainant, were that she had all the habit of going to the house in Richmond of a member of the club and staying there till late at night; that she and another waitress had been treated by two members to a dinner at the Holborn Restaurant; and that she had stood in question, as he would be all the time, the magistrates having considered the matter, the mayor now said that they were of opinion that it was not a malicious libel, and dismissed the case.

The report of a committee appointed by the Treasury to consider the question of the desirability of a fixed age for the compulsory retirement of professors serving under the Crown was issued on Thursday. The committee consider that at the age of 75 the retirement of a president of a college should be absolute.

TO CYCLISTS.

EVERY CYCLIST should call upon W. WHEELER, and inspect his "Lancet" ROAD RACER, which is up-to-date in all details. Trade Motto—CHEAP AND GOOD.

WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.

BEECHAM'S PILLS.

BEECHAM'S PILLS FOR RHEUMATIC AFFECTIONS.

WOOLF BROTHERS.

THE FAMOUS
LONDON WHOLESALE
TAILORS,
87 and 41, BARRICKAN,
LONDON, E.C.,
BEING THE ONLY WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS
OF TAILORS NOW ADVERTISING, ARE IN A POSITION
TO SUPPLY CLOTHING TO MEASURE AT 25 PER
CENT LESS THAN SMALL RETAIL SHOPS AND SOCIETY
WHOLESALE TAILORS, who are not manufacturers
and simply vendors of SHOP-MADE GOODS.
OUR FACTORY AND CUTTING-ROOMS ARE
OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.
NO MIDDLEMAN'S PROFIT
TO PAY.
DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURERS TO
WEARER.
SEVERAL SHEETS OF UNSOLICITED, TESTING
SENT WITH PATTERN &c.

Aix-la-Chapelle, was to see the Prince of Wales on the subject of the execution of Mr. Stokes, as the matt

**NEWEST WINTER
PATTERNS NOW READY**

OVERCOATS	21s.
OVERCOATS	21s.
OVERCOATS	21s.

**KELTONE, SEAVEAS, AND CHEVROTS IN THE
DESIGNS.**

TO MEASURE.

**LINED WITH SPLENDID WOOL
SILK VELVET COLLAR.**

**FINISHED IN THE BEST LONDON ST
WITH WOMEN'S**

**N.B.—AN OVERCOAT IS WANTED AT ONCE
COLOURS REQUIRED, AND SEND MEI BENTON &
ROUND CHEST AND WAIST, with Postal Order.**

**A LARGE STOCK OF OVERCOATS
FOR IMMEDIATE WEAR.**

SPECIAL LINES.

SPECIAL LINE.

OVERCOATS	30s
OVERCOATS	40s
OVERCOATS	50s

TO MEASURE.

CONSISTING OF WEST OF ENGLAND
WEAVERS' CRETONNE, IN
A GRAND VARIETY OF COLOURS.
LINED WOOL. SILK VELVET COLLARS.
UNEQUALLED AT DOUBLE THE PRICE.

BUSINESS SUITS	} 22
BUSINESS SUITS	
BUSINESS SUITS	

TO MEASURE.

IN ALL WOOL TWEEDS OF THE FINEST
AND NEWEST DESIGNS.

Not to be Purchased Anywhere under the

SPECIAL LINES.
SCOTCH AND WEST OF ENGLAND SUITINGS.
SPLENDID DESIGNS FOR FURNISHING
THE SUIT 30² AND 40² MEAS
UNEQUALLED AT DOUBLE THE PRICE
OUR
WORLD-FAMED
NAVY BLUE
SE
THE SUIT

21¹
TO MEASURE.
THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS TESTIFY
WONDERFUL VALUE OF THIS L.
N.R.—IF A SERGE SUIT IS WANTED AT Q
WEIGHT AND MEASURE ROUND CHEST, WITH
WITH LENGTH OF INSIDE LEG, with Postal

MORNING COAT AND
22¹ 6²
THE SUIT, 30¹
IN DIAGONAL AND COCKSNECK WITH
VICUNA, SERMOA, &c.

EVERY GARMENT MADE TO MEASURE
These Suits are the wonder of the age, and, we are
praised as double the price you will have to have
MOURNING ORDERS EXECUTED
TWELVE HOURS.

OUR LEADING LINE
TROUSERS 5
TO MEASURE.

OUR SPECIAL LINE
TROUSERS 8s. 6d. &
TO MEASURE.

HONESTLY WORTH DOUBLE
Send for our Choice Selection of Patterns

Quantity and the most Varied sent out by any
(say what is required), and our Ready Measurement

HONEST ADVICE

We ask you to send for our patterns and
patterns. That is the way to test who gives the
stamp required. Our patterns are sent for
approval.

ORDER DIRECT FROM LONDON, WITH
STYLE, FIT, AND FULL VALUE F
IS OBTAINED.

CARRIAGE PAID TO ALL PART
UNITED KINGDOM.

—

All Communications to be Addressed to

WOOLF BROTHERS

37 and 41, BARRICKAN, LONDON

(One Minute's Walk from Aldergate-street
Bankers, National Bank.

GENTLEMEN CAN BE MEASURED
HOUS OF 90 AND 82
SATURDAY, 90 AND 82.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
WOOLF BROTHERS'
NEW BRANCH ESTABLISHED
for the Sale of Clothing, Ready-made
The largest and most varied stock
Every article made in their work-
Note the Address:
255 and 257, EDGWARE-ROAD,
OPPOSITE THE ROSE AND CROWN
We connect with any other house through

CYCLING.

[illegible]

A passenger in the up London jumped out of a carriage near East Cross and was cut to pieces. The case is supposed to be one of suicide.

The Clyde and Belfast shipbuilders signed a joint agreement to close their shops should the Belfast ironworkers strike at the end of the month. Attempts are also made to get the marine engineers who are not shipbuilders to join.

On the arrival of a train at Harringway station, London, on "Thursday," gentlemen dispersed down the platform. The carriage has been identified as Mr. Leaper, travellor in the employ of Messrs. Wright and Co., billiard table makers. No marks of violence found on the body.

HEROISM OF A STEWARDESS.
A terrible fire which caused the loss of

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coming from
women's
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side of the
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which adjoin
the cabin.
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a small light
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I groped my
way about
and found
leading to
the forecastle.
This force
followed by
the other male
passenge

family almost invariably patronize the route from Edinburgh. Capt. Thompson when seen in the chart house, was in quite a prostrate state, and unable to give any information, though he subsequently proceeded to the Board of Trade, in order to make a statement. On the inside, on the arrival of the boat, was a woman expecting her first daughter. When the girl did not appear, the woman heard of the catastrophe, and her grief was pitiable to behold. The dead child was practically beyond recognition, but the poor woman appeared to think that it was pointed out to her. However, that she might not have sailed, eventually she was induced to leave, in order to obtain telegraphic information as to whether her child really embarked on the Iona. The chief steward stated that there was some doubt as to the passenger's name is given as Miss Macdonald, and a label on the trunk had been spelt differently. The identification of the dead girl was certain. It had been stated that she was daughter of Mrs. Raymond, but he knew Mrs. Raymond well, and was certain she

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION IN THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

For some years past there has been a great desire on the part of the inhabitants of Guernsey and Sark that the two islands should be connected by telegraphic communication. A petition signed by over 1,000 persons has been forwarded through the Lieutenant-governor of Guernsey, requesting that a cable be laid down, and in the meantime a military heliographic system has been established, and is in great demand. It is worked from the mill at Sark to Fort George, Guernsey, and vice versa, and soldiers deliver the dispatches.

rious shipping disaster occurred during the night in the Channel off Port...

with Capt. Drew, who said he heard a tremendous crash about 1 a.m. while he was on the fishing grounds. It happened only been clear, but fog had just come. He bore down in the direction of the boat and came alongside a big steamer. The boats were just being launched. It was dark at the time, and he could not see the extent of the injuries to the other boat, though her bows appeared much damaged. She stood by while the crew and passengers of the Edam were being taken on board. The Edam, a steel-hulled fish-carrying steamer, was owned by the Netherlands Steam Shipping Co. She was built in 1933 at Rotterdam, was 323 ft. long, 41.3 ft. in breadth, and 22.7 ft. in depth. She carried two decks and spardeck. Her gross

served by the crew and passengers. The re-

A NEW USE FOR MUD.
Parisian drapery manufacturers appear to be thoroughly wise. They recognize that materials are the life of the business, and the art of withstanding the dirty weather, so says "Science Siftings," is the mud of the streets for testing the wearability of new colours and shades of their dress. Any new tint that cannot stand the influence of mud is thrown out. But to experiment with mud has been found unpleasant, unless, unhealthily, imitation of the genuine article was recently of a chemist, who furnished a solution of equal amounts of ammoniac of potassium, sulphate of soda, and sea salt in water, which takes the mud in the colour tests of new dress goods.

During Thursday's fog the Rotterdam Marie ran ashore on Lundy Island. She crew elected to remain on board as the vessel can be not off.

Old Bailey Trials.

Old Bailey Trials.

Thames.
ATTEMPTING TO THROW A MAN IN
FURNACE.—James Sapsford, 36, coal
porter, was charged with assaulting William S
stoker, in the service of the Regent's
Dock Company.—Mr. Waters, who
cited, said the assault was a coward
brutal one. Prosecutor, who was a
older man than the prisoner, was on d
the time, and in charge of a boiler
and full team on. While Sawyer was

stated that the Coburns came to him and "set about him," knocking over a table on which the tea had been set. He said he saw the woman, who he identified as Elaine Watkins said hearing the row she ran to Osmond's room when James Coulson was in the eye, and said, "There's one for you!" He afterwards rushed upstairs with a woman, which she wrenched from him. A little later he saw James Coulson and his brother threw a pail of water over his kitchen window.—Mr. Lane said that everybody had been knocked about, and

Adams went to the prison with his father, and he later learned that the prisoner was the same man who had been shot in the back of the head by a police officer in the prison. Adams said that he had seen the prisoner in the prison, and he had seen the prisoner in the prison. Adams said that he had seen the prisoner in the prison, and he had seen the prisoner in the prison.

SOURCES

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Hearings
Lambert,
In the post-
Aston Chem-
Bureau

Archer, the witness gave her permission for the child to be operated on. About half an hour afterwards they told her the child was dead. Lloyd-Jones, house surgeon, deposed that the child had an enormous growth on the side of the neck pressing on the windpipe. The consulting surgeon advised it was opened at once as the growth was suppurating at one part. Deceased was given chloroform.

**CALLAND AND BOWSER'S
BUTTER SCOTCH.**

[illegible]

FATAL ACCIDENT TO LORD BEAU-

400

(MEDICAL.)

"A CARD."—ALL WHO ARE BOY-ISHLY SUFFERING from nervous exhaustion, impaired vitality, spinal weakness of memory and brain power, dizziness of the head, prostate gland, gravel, pain in the back and loins, disarrangement of the urinary organs, will find Dr. J. C. Rensell's "Masturbation Proscription" a grand remedy. Discovered in Old Mexico. To introduce this into England, genuine sufferers will receive the price free of charge. Send address—JOSEPH HENNESSY & Co., Biomechanical Manufactory, Bloomsbury-square, E. London this week.—[Advt.]

[illegible][illegible]

had to be doctored.

BE WISE TO FIGHT!
Sufferers from Gravel, Lumbago, Piles, P.
Rash, Dropsy, Wind and Water Complaints,
Rheumatism, Headache, Nervous Organs, Stone,
etc., etc., Gout, Rheumatism and Gout.
positive cure in HOLMES'S GOUT PILLS.
small box and if not satisfied your money
returned. "Wrote in list of all Chemists, or
Drugs, New Holroyd's Medical Hall, C.
York. Don't be put off by cheap imitations."
To the Editor, "The Lancet," and a box will be
sent (free).

TO DARRIN GRAY HAIR-LOCATOR'S S...
 REMOTE is the quickest, best, safest, most la...
 than any other. The colour produced is most natu...
 yer's Sulphur is the only English Hair Restorer.—

A Perfect Cure. WILLIAMS'S A-CHE MIST...
 Case, No. 10, St. Charles Street, W...
 Diseases. Obtained from Messrs. WILLIAMS, M...
 Bedford, London Agents, NOVEMBER, 18...
 and TAYLOR'S Drug Store. Adversive Dr...

LIVER

CURE ALL LIVER ILLS.

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

In London 2,557 births and 1,296 deaths were registered last week.
Dumas' file usually required about six months to write a story.
The snowed-out tree of Jamaica has hollow trunk and branches.
The French Huguenots were named from a French religious teacher, named Hugh.
The conical cap worn at the time of Alexander the Great is still to be seen in Persia.
The leek is indigenous to Switzerland, from whence it was introduced into this country.
Only two deaths from small-pox were registered in London last week, against six, four, and five in the three preceding weeks.
Indian pipes, made in the shape of an elephant, have been found in the Mississippi Valley.

For over a hundred years St. Helena was a most important calling station for vessels bound for India.
The Mosquito Coast received its name from the Spaniards in allusion to the astonishing abundance of this pestiferous insect.
The Koran forbids true believers to destroy the vines, palm-trees, fruit-trees, corn, and cattle, even of their worst enemies.

In England and Wales the percentage of births to persons living between the ages of 20 and 40 has declined from 12 per cent. to less than 10 per cent. in the last 19 years.
Prince Bismarck has a very loud, harsh voice, and generally speaks in a dogmatic, dictatorial way that admits of no contradiction.

Bombardment of the residential portions of towns, now forbidden by the laws of war, has been repeatedly practiced in spite of this prohibition.

It is computed that all the houses in London and New York could be built of the lava thrown out by Vesuvius since the first recorded eruption in 79 A.D.

Toads and frogs carry a supply of water about with them in a sack provided for the purpose. If, by accident, the supply becomes exhausted, the animal dies.
"Fairy rings," dead patches of grass usually in a circular form, are now known to be caused by fungi which grow in the grass and kills it from the roots up.

The bodies of men who have perished in sandy deserts become so thoroughly dried by the sun and wind as to be reduced to 30 per cent. of their weight in life.

The expression to "rain cats and dogs," indicating a severe shower, is found in Dean Swift. It is supposed to be of provincial origin and much older than his time.

A supposed miraculous fall of manna in Mardin and Diarbekir, Asiatic Turkey, has been found to be due to deposits of a species of lichen which was carried by winds.

The German authorities continue their campaign against the Socialists, and have arrested Herr Witten, editor of the Berlin Journal "Socialist."

The French battleship Marango, built at a cost of several million francs, but which could never be rendered seaworthy, has been sold for 285,000fr.

It is announced at Danzig that Prince Henry of Prussia and Capt. von Arnim, commander of the imperial yacht Hohenzollern, have been raised to the rank of rear-admiral.

According to information received from Grozny, in the Terek territory (Russia), a fresh naptha spring has opened there. The jet is of immense height, and will discharge nearly 30,000,000 poods of naptha daily.

A despatch has been received from New York from Nicaragua, stating that there is no truth in the statement that an earthquake had occurred in Honduras, causing the loss of 300 lives.

"Fiasco" means a bottle or flask. When the Italian glass-blowers detected flaws in the vase they were blowing they made an ordinary bottle of the failure, and hence the name.

The longest bridge in the world is the Lion Bridge, near Saugang, China. It extends five and a quarter miles over an arm of the Yellow Sea, and is supported by 300 huge stone arches.

It is reported in Berlin that the Emperor William is about to present to the public a picture, by the famous painter Knackfuss, allegorical of the intervention of Russia, Germany, and France in the war between China and Japan.

According to a St. Petersburg telegram, the Russian Government proposes to establish shortly direct communication for passengers and baggage between London and the chief Russian towns, via Queenborough, Flushing, and Berlin.

The will of Miss Emily Faithfull, who founded the Victoria Press, and died at Manchester on May 31, has been proved by Miss Charlotte Robinson, of 10, Plymouth-grove, Manchester, by whom the testatrix's gross personalty is valued at £1,081 10s. 2d., and the net at £358 19s. 10d.

A young man named Kilbey, of Swinton, a visitor from Teignmouth, was walking on the railway sea wall with a young woman named Marritt when in the darkness both walked off the wall. Kilbey was picked up with his collar-bone broken, but the woman escaped injury.

Rocking chairs of the styles prevailing nowadays are believed to have been invented in the seventh century. They are mentioned by Venerable Bede. "The women now are so luxurious that they do have chairs with wooden circles on the legs and which away back and forth in such sort that it maketh one sick to hold his breath."

Germany is negotiating with China to secure for German residents in the latter country a strip of land on the Peiho, on which to settle under a form of self-government, and thus granting them rights similar to those already conferred upon Englishmen and Frenchmen by means of so-called concessions.

Capt. H. Horne, of Mainwaring House, Salford, heard some one in his bed-room the other morning, and leaping out of bed closed with a man. An exciting struggle took place, in which a window was smashed. Gradually the struggling pair worked their way to the top of the stairs, down which they rolled; but the captain maintained his hold, and the burglar was taken into custody.

"In answer to an advertisement for a cook," says a correspondent, as a note of warning, "a woman came as an applicant for the situation. My wife was not out of the room for one minute, when on her return the woman quickly left, and it was found she had managed to steal £1 10s. which was lying on aavenport. The reference she gave proved to be false. She is of middle height, and has dark red hair. Her age is about 36."

Sir M. W. Ridley's attention having been drawn, by Mr. Johnston, M.P., to the extraordinarily large number of deaths during the past few months from petroleum lamp explosions, the Home Secretary writes: "I am certainly favourable to the re-appointment of a select committee on these dangerous oil lamps, and hope it may be found practicable to start it again next session. Legislation without the advice of the committee is, I think, in this case well-nigh impossible."

A sad drowning case was investigated by the coroner at Southborne, near Bournemouth. A young man named Walter Hall was fishing on the pier in the morning, and afterwards prepared for a bath. He climbed down the landing stage, holding the iron work with one hand, but suddenly he missed his hold and fell into the water, crying loudly for assistance. A coastguardman and another man speedily went to the place and dived for the body, which was eventually recovered.

recovered, but life was extinct. Accidentally drowned.

Japan had 24 steamers built in the United Kingdom last year.

The Earl of Warwick has consented to become the Mayor of Warwick for a second year.

Mr. S. Clements (Mark Twain) has arrived at Sydney on a lecturing tour.

On Oct. 30, Mr. Tree promises to introduce "Tribble" to a London audience.

Mr. M. Davis has sent by telegraph a second sum of £2,000 to Mr. J. McCarthy.

A new technical school in Peel Park, near Salford, will cost £270,000 for erection and equipment.

Bishop and Mrs. Barry will be absent on the Continent for a short time, and hope to return to Windsor on Sept. 23.

Sir A. Arnold, chairman of the L.C.C., has promised to open, on Oct. 2, the Putney School of Art.

Nathaniel Targart, of Liverpool, inmate of Lancaster County Asylum, committed suicide by leaping out of the window.

Belgium is about to build a ship canal. It is to run from Heyst, on the North Sea, to Brughe.

A new than half the entire cultivated area of Great Britain is now occupied by permanent pasture.

Viscount Hampden, the new Governor of New South Wales, will leave for Sydney on Oct. 11.

Our colonies annually purchase British and Irish goods of the value of something like £20,000,000.

It has been settled that Hyderabad is to have the services of a trained European officer as postmaster-general.

The atmosphere is so clear in Zealand that it is said objects can be seen by starlight at a distance of several miles.

Seven thousand children in Chicago are without adequate public school accommodation.

All the school buildings are crowded.

The gross liabilities in connection with the National Debt have fallen from £355,473,597 in the year 1836, to £260,160,697 in 1888.

Rev. W. H. Cleaver, rector of St. Ulham St. Mary, Norfolk, has been appointed vicar of Christ Church, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

The measures taken by the constabulary to put an end to the rioting in several districts of the city of Limerick have proved effective.

Col. Feis, commander of the Second Army Corps, has died suddenly at Bern. He had rendered great service to the Swiss Army.

The Bishop of Truro has appointed to a rectory in the diocese of Truro Cathedral the Rev. Brunsdick George Hoekyns, vicar of St. Denis, Southampton.

The "Celestial Empire," referring to the domain of China, has a significance in the Chinese legend that the early rulers of that country were all deities.

Additional premises for the London Library in St. James's-square are to be built at a cost of £17,000, upon the site of some property adjacent.

Mr. Housley, coroner for the Bedford district of Notts, has appointed Dr. C. Westbrooke, of Churchgate, East Bedford, deputy coroner for the district.

Pope's silver chair, his present from America, is now on its way across the Atlantic. It is valued at \$8,000fr., and may be used in the same way as a sedan chair.

Mr. Smith Barry, M.P., accompanied by Mrs. Smith Barry, will leave for America on the 26th inst., and will not return to England until the second week in November.

The visit of Lord Rosebery to Scarborough, it has now definitely been settled, will be on Oct. 18, when his lordship will be the guest of Mr. J. C. Rickett, member for the borough.

The Fisheries Department in Canada learns that the salmon-canning season in British Columbia is over. It has been an exceptionally good season, the total pack being about 18,000,000 pounds.

The Admiralty has decided to build a new block of 12 coastguard houses at Sandgate. It will be remembered that the existing coastguard buildings suffered seriously in the lightning storm.

Mr. F. Gough, of Swansea, while grouse-shooting in Berwickshire, was struck in the right eye by a stray pellet. The injured eye has been removed, and Mr. Gough is progressing favourably.

It is reported in New York from San Francisco that Langtry has applied to the Lake County Court for a divorce, having obtained a certificate that she has resided for the requisite legal period in Lake County.

The supply of seamen was last month equal to or in excess of the demand at all our ports except Middlesbrough, where the existing shortage was a short supply of men for sailing vessels to hold their berths.

So much fruit has been raised in California this season that the local markets have been glutted, and in San Francisco tons of melons, pears, and plums have been thrown into the sea.

Gen. Booth, who has completed his African tour, has sailed for New Zealand. His mission at Cape Town has been most successful, and a gift of 20,000 acres of land in Swaziland has been made to him in connection with extensions of his work.

It is stated that the dress to be worn by the Empress of Russia at the coronation ceremony next year has been ordered in gold, and is to be decorated with pearls and gold, marvellously worked, and is to cost over 1,000,000fr.

A special officer is shortly to be appointed by the Indian Government to draft entire new codes of the Criminal and Civil Procedure. The reference to the coronation months bills will be ready for introduction until the Calcutta session of 1890.

It is frequently the custom for merchants in Scotland to buy potatoes when in the ground, and to undertake the lifting and carting. For this purpose they employ a class of men called "gaffers," who take a gang of young women over to assist, as the Irish are some of the best workers in the field.

The great vine in the gardens at Hampton Court Palace is in splendid condition, notwithstanding its great age of 127 years. Early in the season it was expected to reach 6000 bunches of fruit, and it now bears upwards of 1,200 massive clusters in process of ripening.

During the past week 12 steamers landed live stock and fresh meat at Liverpool from American and Canadian ports, bringing a total of 3,429 cattle, 8,245 sheep, and 17,369 quarters of beef, which, compared with the arrivals of the previous week, show an increase of 2,839 cattle, 309 sheep, and 8,977 quarters of beef.

A singular choir dispute is reported from Crossington, Leicestershire. The church choir practised a processional hymn, and were about to begin it, when the vicar vetoed the project. The choir thereupon "struck," divested themselves of their surplices, and took their seats with the congregation, only a solitary chorister consenting to sing.

The income of the University of Chicago during the past year was \$20,000,000. For the coming year it is expected to reach \$20,000,000. The disbursements were estimated at \$20,000,000. The faculty contains at present 157 members. The students in the graduate schools numbered last year 534, in the divinity schools 281, in the colleges 772—a grand total of 1,587.

During a visit to Birmingham, Rear-admiral A. T. Powlett of Rugby, was knocked over by a horse attached to a heavy wagon. He had visited the city for the purpose of taking his son to a physician, and while crossing Paradise-street the accident occurred. Fortunately the results of the occurrence were but slight, and the only injury sustained was a scalp wound. After this had been dressed by a surgeon in the

immediate vicinity, Admiral Powlett returned to Rugby.

Monday was the birthday of Sir Donald Currie, who was born in 1825.

The Chaldean monarchy is believed to date from 2286 a.c.

In the New South Wales Legislative Assembly the Land Income Tax Assessment Bill was carried by 34 votes against 24.

The second report of a settlement of the Armenian question are pronounced to be untrue.

Mount Vesuvius has developed its activity in a fresh direction, and the lava threatens to overflow the provincial roads.

The sixth congress of the Dante Society was opened at Rome in the presence of the mayor and 400 members of the society.

The third International Congress of Technical Instruction was opened at Bordeaux on Monday.

The second-class cruiser Severa is to be fitted out at Chatham with an entirely new battery of quick-firing guns.

The Bishop of Worcester has resigned his commission as chaplain of the 15th Middlesex (Customs and Docks Rifles), an appointment he has held during the past 18 years.

Seven of the persons convicted of participation in the recent outrages have been executed at Ku-cheng, in presence of the foreign consuls.

Canon Atherton, the vicar of Bolton, has accepted the Obeon living of Gedy, near Holbeck, offered him by the First Lord of the Treasury.

The Indians in the Far West are making rapid progress in civilisation. In each of 20 industrial schools, there are from 100 to 200 Indian children being trained.

There are just under a million and a half acres open to the Post Office Savings Bank of the United Kingdom. The total amount deposited is over \$3 millions.

The Marquis of Exeter has been elected to the aldermanic seat in the Peterborough County Council, vacant by the death of his predecessor in the title.

Field-marshal Lord Roberts has presented a prize to be shot for by junior shots at the City of London Rifle Association's prize meeting at Rainham.

Lord Manners, M.P., will preside at the annual dinner of the Leicester Widow and Orphans' Friends' Society, to be held at Leicester on Oct. 1.

At Duncannon, James McCallister was committed for trial at Ulster Assizes, charged with the murder of Patrick McGeogh, by stabbing him on the 24th ult.

There is practically no grouse shooting at Balmoral, and the Duke of York and Prince Henry of Battenberg have been taking part in drives over some of the moors in the neighbourhood.

The largest plant ever seen in London is now at the Botanical Gardens. It is the Victoria Regia water lily. It covers a surface of 400 square feet. It has 10 gigantic leaves measuring over 7ft. in diameter.

Mr. Anthony Hamond, of The Abbey, Westacre, Norfolk, the well-known judge at hackney shows and master of foxhounds, who died on March 30 last, has left property of £100,000.

The Manchester city magistrates had before them a shocking case of parental neglect of children. The mother of the children, who seemed most to blame, was sent to goal for six months, and her husband for four months.

The weekly return of the Imperial Bank of Germany exhibits a decrease in the cash in hand of £144,500. The total amount of deposits in the bank's coffers is at present £48,922,750.

Estate duty has been paid on £237,761 14s. 8d. as the value of the personal estate of the Earl of Pembroke and Earl of Montgomery, late of Wilton House, Salisbury, who died last May, aged 44 years.

Lord Salisbury, regardless of the harsh winds at Dieppe, takes a sea bath daily. The local papers state that his daughter is acting as his secretary.

The highest shade temperature reported during last week was 57deg. at Llandover, and the thermometer registered 86deg. in the Channel Islands, while in many parts of England the reading exceeded 80deg.

The late Mr. John Mayne, who had a four hours' forced draught trial of her machinery. She attained an indicated horse power of 12,497, nearly 500 above the contract, with an average revolution of 106 per minute and a mean speed of 17.8 knots.

Miss Macintyre has just signed a contract with Mr. Hedmond for the coming English opera season at Covent Garden Theatre. The Scotch soprano will appear in several of her old parts, and also in one or two roles hitherto unidentified with her career in this country.

At a meeting of the Moss Side District Council, held on Monday evening, it was unanimously decided, on the motion of Mr. Aron, to put in force the Free Libraries Act, and proceed without delay to the erection of a library and reading room.

A telegram from St. Petersburg states that an imperial ukase has been promulgated announcing the establishment of a central council of administration for workhouses and reformatories, and that the work of the council will be under the immediate patronage of the empress.

The Spectator was held at Brighton on the body of a shoemaker named Joseph Wood, 52, who committed suicide on Monday at the Central Station by throwing himself in front of the New Cross express train. Wood some years ago, it was stated, was confined in Haywards's Heath Lunatic Asylum, and of late had been ill and depressed. Suicide.

Dundell Cavalry Barracks, Private O'Brien, of the 13th Hussars, who had been prevented from going out by Sergt. Maltby, returned to the guard-room with a large cooking-knife, and it is alleged, stabbed Maltby in the throat and temple, leaving the knife in the body. Maltby is in a serious condition. O'Brien has been arrested.

The Special Lighting Committee of the Liverpool City Council have concluded a supplementary agreement with the Liverpool Electric Supply Co., extending until Dec. 31, 1896, the operation of the contract for the purchase of the company's undertaking. This, it is stated, will enable the bill to be presented next session.

A young man and his wife, named Guyon, have poisoned themselves at Lyons for a singular reason.

The young man, who was ordered to undergo a month's training for the reserve, but asked to be excused because his wife was ill. The request was refused, and husband and wife, rather than be parted, poisoned themselves.

There is living in the almshouses at Leathley, in Yorkshire, an old lady, Elizabeth Watson, who has just celebrated her 100th birthday. She comes of a stock remarkable for its longevity.

Her father, who was for nearly 40 years coachman in the family of the Rev. G. Allott, rector of St. Kirby, died, it is said, at the age of 110, while his brother, a soldier, who fought at Waterloo, died at the age of 115. Mrs. Watson's husband claimed to have a grandmother 108 years of age. She can thread a needle without the aid of spectacles.

Aluminium has proved to be a failure in connection with the construction of the "torpedo" vessels, owing to the action of salt water. The aluminium fittings of American torpedo boats have been sitting on deck and out of reach of the water constructed of the same material are gradually crumbling owing to the action of the salt in the air. Paint has been found useful in preventing corrosion, but is only a temporary preventive, and some special alloy will

have to be discovered if aluminium is to be of service in the navies of the world.

The Post Office Savings Bank of the United Kingdom was opened 34 years ago.

A little boy named Walker was attacked by a mare at Lockerbie and killed.

The Duchess of Teck will open a bazaar on behalf of the voluntary schools at Rochester on the 30th prox.

On the recommendation of the Indian Government, a good service pension has been conferred on Surgeon-col. D. Spencer.

John Warren, who had in the past taken a prominent part in the Fenian movement, has died at Boston.

It is stated that the New National Portrait Gallery will be ready for opening to the public in November, if not sooner.

A Spanish mathematician, figuring out the average allowances of sleep, illness, and the like, says a man 30 years of age has only really lived 14 or 15 years.

Every maid of honour to the Queen receives the title of honourable when appointed. A gift of £1,000 is generally given to a maid of honour upon her marriage.

At Rochester, Sir C. Furness was fined £25, including costs, as owner of the steamer Albert, which unlawfully discharged ashes into the River Thames.

A princess, a countess, a duchess, and the daughter of a reigning prince were among the 4,000 guests at the professional and unprofessional, arrested in Paris during the first six months of this year.

The log cabin in which Lincoln was born was torn down years ago, and the logs used in building another half a mile away. They are now to be replaced as nearly as possible in their original position.

A perfect vacuum is a perfect insulator. It is possible to exhaust a tube so perfectly that no electric machine can send a spark through the vacuum space, even when the space is only one centimetre.

In London—unlike other cities, especially New York and Vienna—no house is permitted to exceed in height the width of the street in front, and the number of inhabitants is limited by law.

Lord Cecil, on behalf of the Dorset Natural History Society, has presented Mr. J. Mansel-Pleydell, who has been president of the society for 20 years, with a magnificent silver bowl, as a mark of personal esteem.

By fire the house of Mr. J. Trevelyan, jun., Lancashire, was totally destroyed, with most of the furniture. Mr. Trevelyan's sister-in-law and her four children, who were in bed, were rescued with difficulty.

News has been received in Norway from a Danish trading station to the effect that the Esquimaux firmly embedded in the ice. It is believed that the vessel is Dr. Nansen's Fram, and that she is on her return journey.

Miss Helen Gould is subject to so much annoyance while travelling, owing to her great wealth and reputation for liberality, that she has adopted an incognito, and while in Leamington recently registered as Miss Helen Annetta Jackson.

Miss Billington, the lady journalist who visited India two years ago, has again left this country for the East. On this occasion she will endeavour to reach Afghanistan, and, if possible, to see the Amer and something of his family life, with a view to publishing a book.

According to a telegram received in New York from Newport, Rhode Island, Lord Dunsany is said to have visited Bristol on Monday, and to have placed an order with Messrs. Herreshoff, for a celebrated yacht builders, for a 20-toner yacht, Valkyrie sails for England on Tuesday.

The first Welsh "University week" will come off the first days of October. The Senate opens on the Monday, the Guild of Graduates on Wednesday, and the annual college meeting will be held on Oct. 4.

The acceptance by the Prince of Wales of the chancellorship has given universal satisfaction throughout the principality.

Sir J. Stansfeld, M.P. for Halifax for 36 years, has been presented with the honorary freedom of that town. The certificate being handed him in a handsome silver case. Sir James spoke with feeling of the public life which he so long attached him to the place of his birth and the home of his honoured father.

It is announced from Le Mans that two small but valuable paintings—an Adoration of the Magi and a Love and the Lion—have been stolen from the museum there. Some English visitors, who remained in the gallery during the robbery, were the only witnesses of the robbery.

At the annual meeting of the Melbourne Cricket Club a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Stoddart's team, and the amateur members of it were elected life members of the club. The profits of the tour of the club have amounted to £23,000.

The committee were authorised to invite a visitor from another English eleven in the near future.

On Sunday a sensational incident happened at St. Peter's, Twerton, near Bath. The banners of a couple were being read for the last time when the mother of the bridegroom-elect slipped and fell, and was killed.

The bride and groom, who were a married woman with children. The clergyman put off the wedding, which was to have taken place at the conclusion of the service, pending inquiries.

In 1889-90, Mr. Worthington turned down on his moor, Acomb, by Killyn, some 70 acres of moorland, which he had bought for £1,000, marking the first, or 1889 lot, with silver, and the 1890 lot with copper bands.

Only some three or four of these birds have been killed at various times, and some sportsmen have thought that all must have left the moor. However, one was killed on Sept. 8 with the copper band. It was in perfect condition, although it must have been over seven years.

In order to encourage the fruit industry in Otago, the New Zealand Minister of Agriculture has agreed to support the establishment of an experimental nursery in the province, and to place a sum upon the estimates for that purpose. He proposes to purchase 150 to 200 acres of land for the nursery, and to employ an experienced superintendent. Fruit, he has no doubt, can be grown successfully in New Zealand, and the Minister has promised to obtain a supply of plants of the right kind, and the machinery necessary for preserving the fruit.

The 23rd annual Congress of Railwaymen, convened by the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, will be opened on Tuesday prox., in the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, Peter-street, Manchester, and continued the three following days. There will be delegates present from various parts of the United Kingdom, and of these will represent the metropolis, six come from Irish branches, five from Wales, and three from Scotland, while the remainder (comprising the main body of delegates) will be composed of representatives from provincial England.

A performing lion which was being exhibited by a woman named Devere, at Bohmer Park, Montreal, made its escape and started on a tour through the city. The lion was tame, and was a lion of the liberty, and was roaming about the streets, and a panic ensued, hardly anyone daring to stir out of doors. It attacked and bit a horse it met. Devere, in stage costume, pursued the lion, and finally found it in a hollow under a pile of lumber, where it was taken and safely caged. It was a great relief to the city. Its cage was brought up, and it was

induced to enter it, and was then promptly secured.

It has been decided to hold a colonial exhibition at Montreal next year.

The "Era" has received nearly £100 already in response to its appeal on behalf of poor Miss Rose Norrery.

The Archbishop of York on Tuesday unveiled the memorial of the late Bishop Goodwin in Carlisle Cathedral.

Princess Waldemar of Denmark gave birth to a daughter on Tuesday at the castle of Bernstorff.

Prince Henry of Prussia, who goes on tomorrow shortly, will proceed to England on a visit to Queen Victoria. His Royal Highness has been granted an extension of leave.

At Hollingbourne, a postman named Arthur Fox, was committed for trial charged with stealing 150 postal packages, these being found at his lodgings by the Maidstone police.

A Parliamentary return just published shows that the total cost to the rates of the last London School Board election was £11,144 4s. 10d., as against £9,885 6s. 11d. in 1888, and £8,260 12s. 2d. in 1889.

A movement on foot to give the Earl of Denbarn a public reception at Cardiff on his return home in recognition of his sportsmanlike conduct during the race for the America Cup in the United States.

At a mass meeting of Staffordshire and East Worcestershire small chain makers, held at Cradley Heath, it was decided that the whole of the operators, numbering about 1,000, should turn out on strike at once for an advance of about 20 per cent. in wages.

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